

PRIORITY 1: AFFORDABLE, INCLUSIVE HEALTH SERVICES



BUILDING ON THE COMMUNITY HEALTH ASSESSMENT (CHA)

- Access to health services is getting worse.
- Many residents still face barriers to physical and dental care, preventative services, and culturally responsive treatment.
- Routine check-ups and cancer screenings remain below desired levels.
- In 2022, 18% of adults in poverty and 21% of adults with disabilities did not access care due to cost.

2024-25 CHA:



EQUITY FOCUS & GOAL

This priority focuses on eliminating cost, cultural, and structural barriers so that systemically marginalized* communities receive equitable, timely, appropriate care.

Goal: Ensure physical, behavioral, mental, and dental health services are affordable, culturally relevant, and trauma-informed/healing centered.

STRATEGY

Promote the use of Traditional Health workers, starting with Community Health Workers (CHWs), among both community members and providers to improve health literacy and help people connect to the care they need.

OBJECTIVES

1. Increase understanding of CHWs, who they are, and what they do, using communication methods that support health literacy.
2. Create a comic or animation explaining CHWs' roles and share it quarterly on social media, permanently on the LHL website, and through additional outreach partnerships.
3. Assess pre/post usage of CHWs through data partnerships; evaluate social media and website engagement for effectiveness.

WHY A FOCUS ON CHWs

- Provide culturally relevant, healing centered, community-based support.
- Help people understand their options, connect to services, and manage their health.
- Bridge gaps between community members and the healthcare system.
- Awareness of CHW roles remains limited.

PROVEN STRATEGIES

- Cultural competence training
- Patient navigators
- Culturally adapted healthcare
- Telemedicine
- Rural transportation services
- School-based health centers
- Mobile health for mental health
- Telemental health services



WHAT WE HEARD



- Access challenges go beyond service availability.
- People struggle to navigate a fragmented and complex healthcare system.
- Barriers include insurance limits, provider shortages, transportation challenges, and digital inequities that make telehealth harder to access.
- Members called for a shift to "healthcare for people, not for profit," emphasizing trust, relationships, and community connection.

Use the LHL Equity Tool!

SUBCOMMITTEE PARTNERS



PUBLIC HEALTH
COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS PROGRAM



- American Cancer Society
- Community Advisory Council
- ShelterCare

RESOURCE PARTNERS



*The 2024-25 CHA defines systemically marginalized as people who face additional barriers to accessing resources due to one or more parts of their identity. People who identify as Black, Indigenous, Asian, Latine/a/o/x, Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander, people who identify as LGBTQA+, and people living with a disability.